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44-7-15-46	FJJ-200	21 May 1953	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
SUBJECT			DATE
Connections Between Rightists and Political Parties			9 Oct 1953

PERTINENT INFORMATION

Source: Magazine Article

Evaluation: B-3

The attached report is a translation of an article appearing in the May 1953 issue of the Japanese Magazine Jimbutsu Orai (Activities of Personalities). The nature and coloration of the magazine is not known; it does not have too large a circulation. While the magazine is available on the open market, this article by MUGINO Ippei (7796/6851/0001/0365) does contain a considerable amount of information of background interest on the connections existing between various Japanese Rightist and political parties and figures, and is forwarded for that reason.

The following excerpts are taken from pages 1 and 3.

MIURA and the Progressive Party

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KODAMA in Possession of MISLEADING INFORMATION

SHIGEMITSU Maroru is closely connected with another former rightist, KODAMA Yoshio. KODAMA is a more orthodox rightist than MIURA; he is connected with AKAO Bin (6375/1442/2404) of the Kengoku Kai; KOSHIMA Masashi (1420/3113/2973) who was connected with the assassination of INOUE Junnosuke; and HISINUMA Goro (5480/3113/0063/6715), who was connected with the assassination of IIN Takeo. KODAMA was the founder of the Forward Attack Unit of the All Japan Patriots Joint Fighting Council. He also attempted to assassinate Premier SAITO Minoru. Later he went over to China, formed the "KUDAMA Klan", and amassed millions as a rightist merchant. Immediately after the war's end, he remitted \$100,000,000 to Japan with the approval of the Finance Ministry and embarked on the development of tungsten and polythene mines in Japan. He has also set up two iron foundries in China. Part of the money which KODAMA brought back is believed to have gone into the Prince HIGASHIKUNI Cabinet. KODAMA became an adviser to the Prince HIGASHIKUNI Cabinet, along with OSARAGI Jiro and KAGAWA Toyohiko. Prince HIGASHIKUNI explained that KODAMA was recommended by Foreign Minister SHIGEMITSU.

Now that, since the restoration of independence, all sorts of rightist activities and organizations have been revived, it is likely that the KODAMA-SHIGEMITSU combination will develop anew. And serious attention should be paid to the close connection between KODAMA and HATUYAMA Ichiro. HATUYAMA was recuperating at a hotel in Nihon last summer, reportedly at the expense of KODAMA. A building at the back of the hotel was said to be KODAMA's property.

In the midst of the mud-slinging strife between the YOSHIDA and HATUYAMA factions (TN: of the Liberal Party) over the re-election of three important officials of the party, HATUYAMA, MIKI Baidichi, HIROKAWA Kosaku, and MIURA had a meeting at KODAMA's residence. People said that they went there just to eat fish from the Tone River. However, the meeting is clear evidence of the growing intimacy between the conservatives and the rightists. At this meeting HIROKAWA apologized to HATUYAMA for his (HIROKAWA's) past connection with YOSHIDA. Then HATUYAMA, MIKI, and HIROKAWA shook hands. Their close connection will increase in the near future.

The recent animation in the rightist camp is due to increasing preparations for rearmament and criticism of Occupation policy. But there are no more "big wheels" in the rightist camp; MIURA and KODAMA are the only remnants. The spectacular show they are putting on in dealing with HATUYAMA, MIKI and HIROKAWA is conclusive proof of expansion in the rightist camp.

The rightists are now seriously considering a "coalition cabinet" of MIURA and KODAMA. This does not mean that they would actually be in the Cabinet; rather it means a conservative coalition cabinet to be formed by HATUYAMA and SHIGEMITSU with the support of KODAMA, and by HIROKAWA and MIKI with the support of MIURA in order to step up rearmament. It is widely speculated that there will be a Progressive-HATUYAMA-Liberal coalition cabinet after the general election. Indeed the Progressives' policy is so close to that of the Liberal (Hatachiku Liberal) that it gives the impression of agreement. The only difference is that the Progressives call for the creation of a self-defense army without violating the Constitution while the HATUYAMA party is sponsoring Constitutional revision to create a split-defense army. SHIGEMITSU is quoted as saying "I hope that HATUYAMA's democratic leaning will agree with our party's policy." And it is noted that recently it is believed that there will be a meeting of the new government of the HATUYAMA-Liberal Party and the Progressive Party (KDP) for a coalition cabinet after the general election.

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Certainly a MURAI-KOJIMA coalition is a possibility. There is no doubt that they will act along this line. They also contemplate developing the connection between the Progressives and the Liberals into the creation of a new conservative party composed of SHIGEMITSU (President), SATOYAMA (Honorary President), and MIKI Ichiro, HIRAKAWA Kenen, OSA Tadao, and ASHIDA Hitoshi (officials).

It is not known whether this plan was originated by certain politicians like SATOHARA, MIKI, HIRAKAWA and SHIGEMITSU and then backed by MIURA and KODAMA or was shaped up by MIURA and KODAMA. The question of which or any coming first is irrelevant; they are the same thing. The same is true of the relations between the rightists, the Progressives and SATOHARA.

KODAMA Yoshio

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YODOMA was an adviser to the Prince MIASHINJI Cabinet after the end of the war. Immediately afterward, he was arrested as a Class A War Criminal. After many trials, he will be punished as a defendant in the "Inside and Outside of MIYAZAWA" and "KODAMA" trials. He is a man of great connections, but now he has left the public eye, because the people considered him neither a capitalist nor a militarist. He was recently seen to the "oro" again in connection with MATSUMI Tomiro and MIYAZAWA Kosen, SATOYAMA, and HINOKAWA at KODAMA's residence in Miyazaki, and with MURAKAMI. YODOMA has been exploiting skillfully such "big wigs" as MIYAZAWA, MIYAKE, TANAKA, and HIRORAWA.

KODAMA's flexibility, strong character, and talent have won general admiration. He stated as follows in his book, "I Was Defeated":

"I entered the Kenosha Bar at the age of 19 in 1929 and fought against Communism. At that time the Kenosha Bar planned to raise an appeal direct to the Emperor in opposition to the newly-formed Labor-Union Party. I promptly agreed to this plan and accepted the mission to put it into practice.

On November 3rd, I brought an appeal direct to the Emperor on his way to the Iwakura Shrine. Then I was held in the Ichigaya Prison on the charge of violating the Protection Law and sentenced to a 6-month imprisonment, and then transferred to the Iwawa Prison. I was released from there in 1920 and again joined the Komminist Party.

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1923) and to some extent by the STOOLD (1900-1901) and the (Vodlo) (1900-1901) while the latter is only a small part of the

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In those days the Army and bureaucracy used to use such rightists for continental operations. They referred to him as an interesting, useful man because of his attempted assassination and direct appeal to the Emperor. As soon as he was freed from jail, KAWAI Tatsuo (3109/0064/6671/1133), Chief of the Intelligence Department of the Foreign Ministry, gave KODAMA \$3000 and told him to make a trip to China.

After KODAMA went to China he was engaged in special operations for Vice Consul IWAI. His monthly salary at that time was \$500, which was high for an ordinary salaried employee. No wonder he could not easily quit that job.

The special operation paying \$500 monthly was to insure the personal safety of WANG Chao-ting (3076/0340/6900). He was just like KOMDO Isamu toward the closest of the Shogunate.

KODAMA had more talent than any other rightist, which he could use to equal the success attained by HATOGAMI and HIROKAWA. He possessed a special talent for raising funds. He was not just a simple man, but a smart businessman. Just before the Pacific War, KODAMA spoke to Lieutenant General IWAIKA, Commanding Officer of Air Force Headquarters, of the necessity of establishing an organization to purchase war materials from the interior of the continent, and the Kodama Kikan was authorized.

The KODAMA Kikan purchased various metals, machinery, equipment, Korean carrots, and oranges, etc., and did business in them on a small scale. A boat of not more than 100 tons carried the goods on the Chaho River. But great profits were made, and the assets of KODAMA at the war's end was equivalent to approximately \$3,200,000,000; this was for the most part confiscated by the Chinese Army.

The balance of \$3,900,000 deposited in Japan was contributed to schools and scholarly associations. Even then KODAMA still had considerable assets left. It is said that he was given a grant of about \$400,000 by the Occupation Forces, for tipping them off about radium buried at the residence of TSUJI Jiroku (71929/0857/0362). The profits were also said to have been derived from business which he has had with TSO Feten-ling (0146/3763/7893) on the strength of a \$150,000,000 loan from the Tokyo Trust Bank. It is not known which story is true, but the fact that HATOGAMI and HIROKAWA are still under KODAMA's control would indicate that he still has funds. Rumor also has it that KODAMA arranged the HIROKAWA-HATOGAMI conference to force HATOGAMI silent, over which he could take money, or to get fund donations from.

It is his wish to start a new political party. In any event, KODAMA is moving in the right of maturity with his party's intelligence and talent.

END OF INFORMATION

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